

DRAWING AMENDMENTS

The applicant submits Replacement Drawing Sheets for original drawing sheets 24, 25, and 26 and respectfully requests entry of the Replacement Drawing Sheets into the file. The amendments made are described in the follow Remarks section.

REMARKS

The applicant provides the following remarks which address each concern raised by the office in the second communication mailed March 3, 2006.

Request For Telephonic Conference. The applicant specifically requests a telephonic conference to address any remaining concerns of the examiner.

Cancellation of Claims. The applicant by Preliminary Amendment cancelled claims 1-68 and in applicant's response to the first official action claims 70-78 were cancelled, each cancellation of claims without prejudice. The applicant does not waive any right to have these canceled claims, or other claims supported by the description, whether of lesser or greater breadth, examined in subsequently filed continuation, division, continuation-in-part, or similar continuing applications.

Drawing Objections. The office raised objections to the drawings sheets as not providing leaders and element identifiers for the front surface and back surface of first and second hanger bodies terminating in an edge establishing a beveled surface, and the beveled surfaces.

The applicant has amended the drawing sheets 24, 25, and 26 solely to add the leaders and the element identifiers without the addition of any new matter. The applicant believes that the drawing sheets as amended fully address the drawing objections of the office.

Section 112 Concerns. The office has raised Section 112, first paragraph concerns. The office indicates that "the specification does not disclose a first and second hanger body (33 and 34) having a front (2) and a back surface (3) which terminates in a first hanger body edge which establishes a beveled surface."

The scope and degree of the required enablement varies inversely with the degree of predictability involved, but even in the unpredictable arts, a disclosure of ever operable species is not required. A single embodiment may provide broad enablement in cases

involving predictable factors, such as mechanical or electrical elements. §2164.03, MPEP; *In re Vickers*, 141 F.2d 522 (CCPA 1944). The claims as filed in the original specification are part of the disclosure and , therefore, if an application as originally filed contains a claim disclosing material not found in the remainder of the specification, the applicant may amend the specification to include the claimed subject matter. §2163 B., MPEP; *In re Benno*, 768 F.2d 1340 (Fed. Cir. 1985).

The instant invention includes a predictable generic mechanical embodiment of an object hanger with several alternate embodiments disclosed--one such embodiment being a lockable embodiment of the invention. The written description makes clear that the lockable embodiments of the invention may include the mechanical elements included in the non-locking embodiments of the invention. As set forth beginning on page 21, l. 10, the written description states:

“ Now referring primarily to Figures 24 to 26, embodiments of the hanger invention can further provide lockable securement of objects to a hanging surface upon establishing opposed mated relation of a first lockable hanger body (33) and a second lockable hanger body (34).” (emphasis added).

It is clear from the written description that the non-lockable embodiments of the invention prior described in the written description can further provide lockable securement of objects. The written description proceeds to then describe the additional features included in the locking embodiments of the invention which allow for lockable securement of objects to a hanging surface. Additionally, it is clear that other figures can be referred to other than Figures 24 to 26 to understand all the features of the lockable embodiment of the invention.

As described by the written description starting at page 10, l. 25:

“Now referring to Figures 15-17, . . . a first hanger (27) and a second hanger (28). . . The first hanger (27) comprises a hanger body (1) having a hanger body with a beveled surface (5). . . A substantially identical interlocking second hanger (28) comprising a hanger

body (1) having an edge with a beveled surface (5). . .once the first hanger (27) and the second hanger (28) are mounted to their respective surfaces, the hanger body edges having a beveled surface (5) can be interlocked.

The description continues starting at page 21, l. 19:

“As shown in Figure 24, the first lockable hanger body (33) and the second lockable hanger body 34, which can have substantially identical configuration other than the lock elements, can engage in opposed mated relation to allow locked securement. . .”

As to all the embodiments of the invention, the description makes clear beginning on page 10, l. 14:

“ . . .a basic embodiment of the hanger invention can comprise a hanger body (1). . . .The hanger invention may also comprise a hanger body edge having a beveled surface (5).”

Also, independent claim 69 as originally filed recites:

“a. a first hanger body having a front surface and a back surface which terminate in a first edge having a beveled surface;. . .c. a second hanger body having a front surface and a back surface which terminate in an edge having a beveled surface, wherein said beveled surface of said first hanger body and said beveled surface of said second hanger body are configured to engage in opposed mated relation. . .”

Based on the written description alone the applicant believes that a person of ordinary skill would be able to make and use the lockable embodiment of the invention as recited by amended claim 69. The applicant has further amended the specification as set forth above to include the language set forth in claim 69 as originally filed directly into paragraph [] of the description as allowed by the rules to avoid any lack of enablement. The applicant believes that this amendment along with the amendment of drawing sheets 24-26 as suggested by the office fully addresses the Section 112, first paragraph concerns of the office.

Allowable Subject Matter. The office found claims 72 and 83 allowable subject to being rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Amendment of Claim 69. The applicant has amended independent claim 69 to include the limitations of claim 72 which the office found to be allowable. The applicant believes that as amended claim 69 and all claims ultimately made dependent thereon are allowable. The applicant has amended claim 69 solely to expedite the examination of this application to an allowance and a grant of patent. The applicant respectfully requests allowance of claim 69 and claims 79-85 made ultimately dependent thereon.

The applicant believes, however, that the allowable breadth of the invention is broader than would be afforded by claim 69 as rewritten, and the applicant incorporates by reference the arguments made in the applicant's prior response of December 14, 2005 herein and does not waive the breadth between claim 69 as originally filed and claim 69 as rewritten and does not waive the right to file a continuing application to have claim 69 reexamined as originally filed or other claims of even greater breadth examined which are supported by the description.

Section 102 Concerns. The office has raised concerns under Section 102 which are made moot by the amendment of claim 69 to include the limitations of claim 72 and any intervening claims.



CONCLUSION

The applicant has canceled claims 1-68 and 70-78 without prejudice. Claims 72 and 83 were found to be allowable and claim 69 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 72 and any intervening claims. The applicant respectfully requests allowance of claim 69 as presently amended.

Dated this 11 day of September, 2006

Respectfully Submitted,

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